

# LONG ISLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8, No. 7

Nov. - Dec. 1998

## Preliminary Atlas of the Berberidaceae through Fumariaceae of Long Island, New York

The Flora Committee  
Long Island Botanical Society

This fifth contribution to an atlas of L.I. plants treats 25 species included in five families: 1) Berberidaceae, the Barberry Family, 2) Lardizabalaceae, the Lardizabala Family, 3) Menispermaceae, the Moonseed Family, 4) Papaveraceae, the Poppy Family, and 5) Fumariaceae, the Fumitory Family.

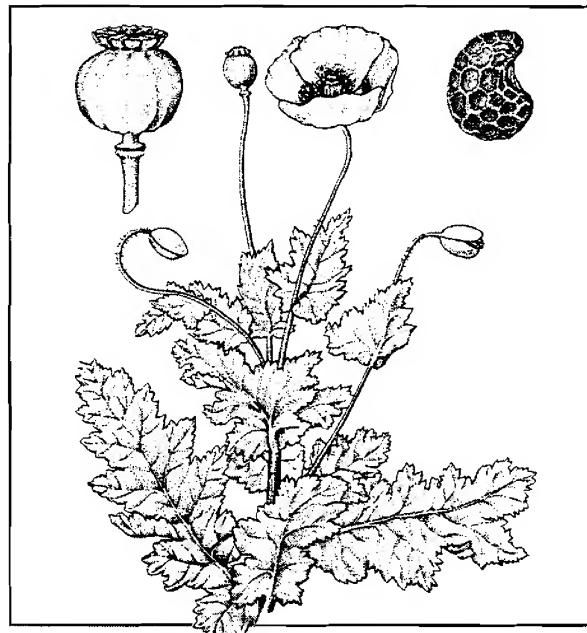
Eighteen of the 25 species included in this treatment are non-native species (= alien), most being garden escapes. Although the wild bleeding-heart (*Dicentra exima*) is native to New York, the LIBS Flora Committee considers this species to be a garden escape on L.I. The same is probably true for the may-apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*); all of the populations reported by the Committee appear to be introduced. The five-leaf akebia (*Akebia quinata*) is persistent after cultivation but seeds usually are set only after hand pollination. Japanese and common barberry (*Berberis thunbergii* & *B. vulgaris*) are two of the most invasive non-native plants in New York State. Wintergreen barberry (*B. julianae*) is recently escaped and established in central Suffolk Co., and has not yet been added to the Checklist of N.Y.S. Plants (Mitchell & Tucker). Yellow harlequin (*Corydalis flavula*) is a N.Y.S. threatened species, and golden corydalis (*C. aurea*) has been recorded for Long Island but no voucher specimen or verified published report has been found.

## Highlights

Atlas of Long Island Plants: Part 5	39
Distribution Maps	40
Environmental Initiatives	42
Plant Sightings	43
Programs	44

## Key to Map Symbols

Closed circle [●] = there is a specimen for this area collected after 1980.  
Open circle [○] = there is a specimen for this area collected before 1980.  
Closed square [■] = there is a specimen from this area collected before 1980 and a report (based upon a visual sighting or published literature report) from this area after 1980.  
Closed triangle [▲] = there is a report (based upon a visual sighting or published literature report) from this area after 1980.  
Open triangle [△] = there is a report (based upon a visual sighting or published literature report) from this area before 1980.



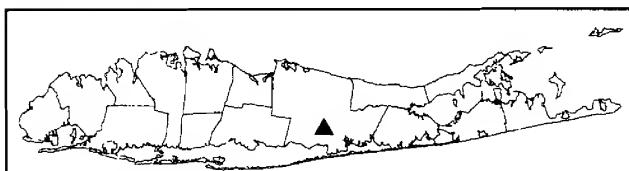
**Opium Poppy (*Papaver somniferum*)**

One of the more frequent poppies in garden cultivation prior to regulation under U.S. federal law.

Illustration from Mitchell, 1983.

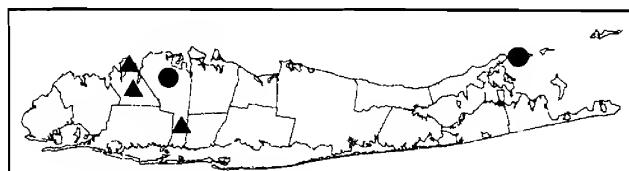
# Maps

## BERBERIDACEAE

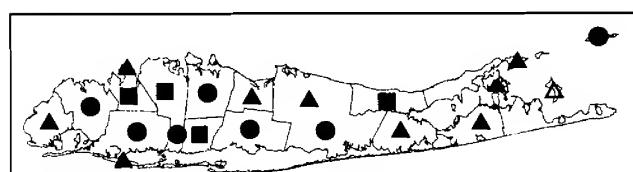


Berberis julianae Schneid. -  
Alien  
WINTERGREEN BARBERRY

## LARDIZABALACEAE

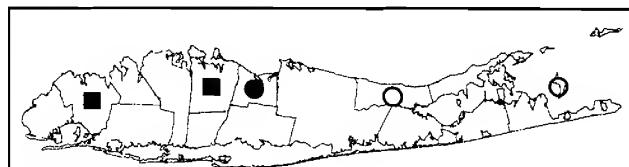


Akebia quinata (Houtt.) Dcne. - FIVE-LEAF AKEBIA  
Alien

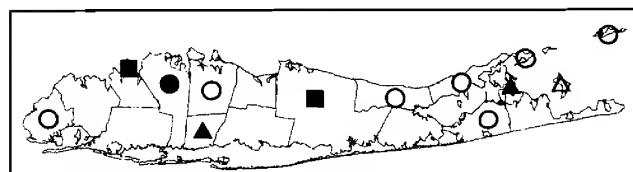


Berberis thunbergii DC. -  
Alien  
JAPANESE BARBERRY

## MENISPERMACEAE

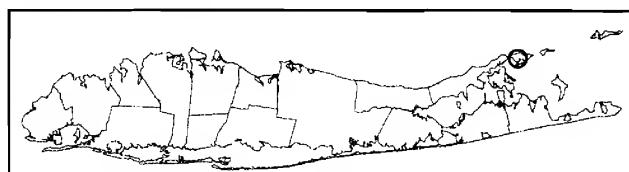


Menispermum canadense L. - MOONSEED  
Native

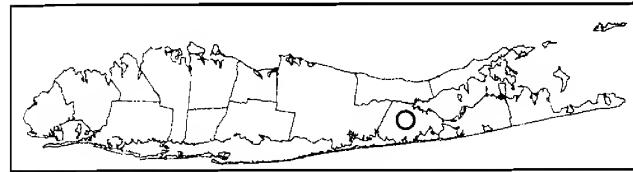


Berberis vulgaris L. -  
Alien  
COMMON BARBERRY

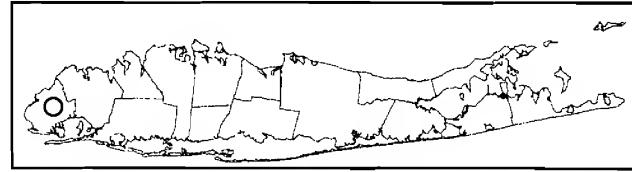
## PAPAVERACEAE



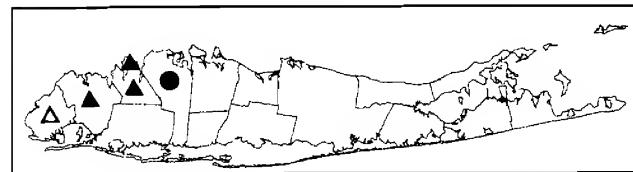
Argemone albiflora Hornem. -WHITE PRICKLY-POPPY  
Alien



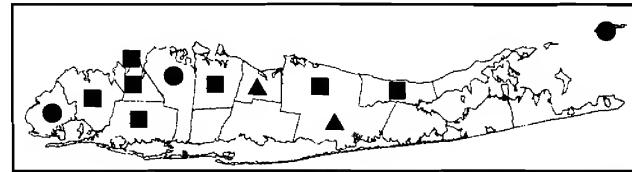
Caulophyllum thalictroides (L.) Michx. -BLUE COHOSH  
Native



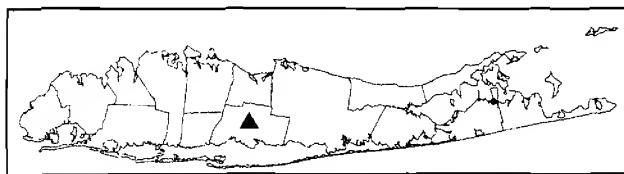
Argemone mexicana L. - YELLOW PRICKLY-POPPY  
Alien



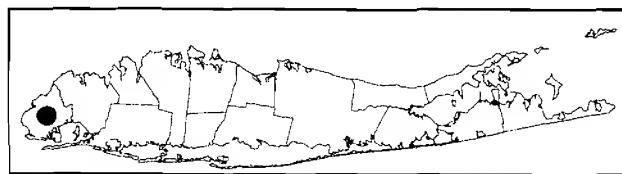
Podophyllum peltatum L. -  
Native  
MAY-APPLE



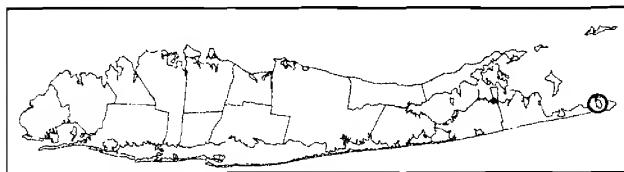
Chelidonium majus L. - GREATER CELANDINE  
Alien



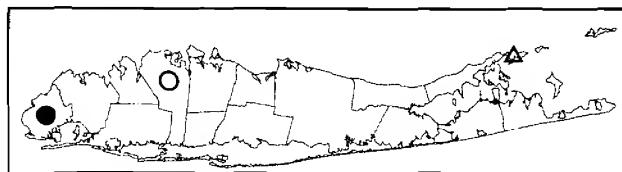
*Eschscholzia californica* Cham. ex Nees -  
Alien CALIFORNIA POPPY



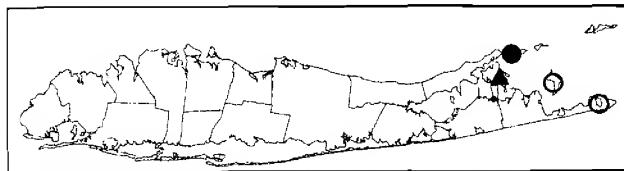
*Papaver orientale* L. -  
Alien ORIENTAL POPPY



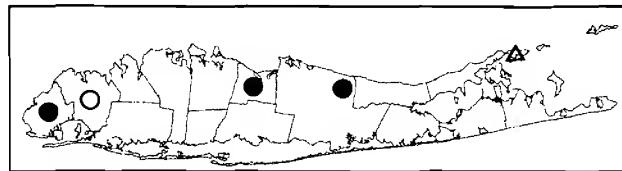
*Glaucium corniculatum* (L.) J. Rudolph -  
Alien HORNED POPPY



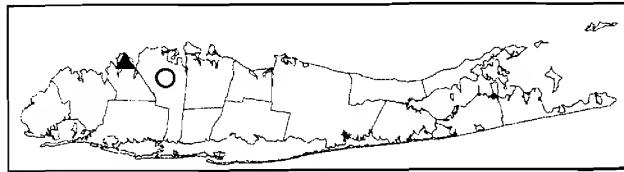
*Papaver rhoes* L. -  
Alien CORN POPPY



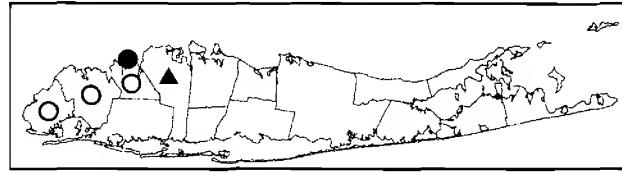
*Glaucium flavum* Cranz -  
Alien HORNED POPPY



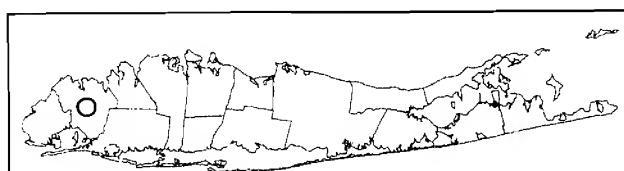
*Papaver somniferum* L. -  
Alien OPIUM POPPY



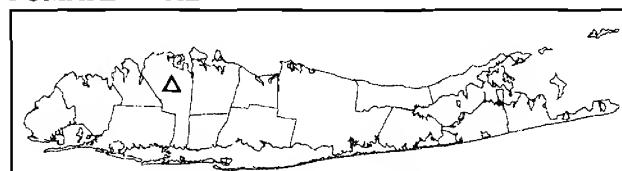
*Macleaya cordata* (Willd.) R. Br.  
Alien PLUME-POPPY



*Sanguinaria canadensis* L. -  
Native BLOODROOT



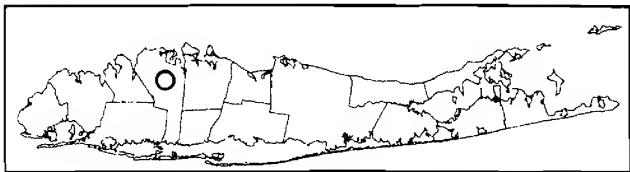
*Papaver dubium* L. -  
Alien CORNFIELD POPPY



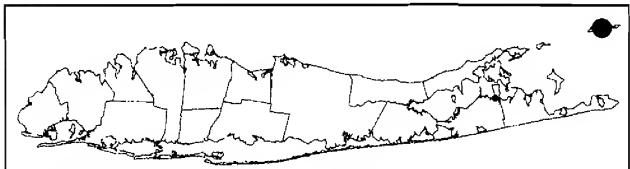
*Adlumia fungosa* (Ait.) Greene ex BSP. -  
Native ALLEGHENY VINE

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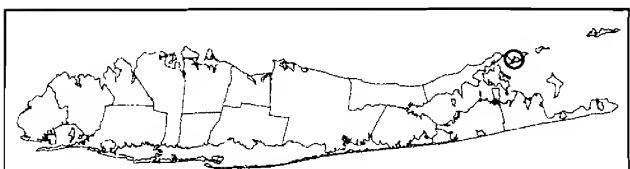
## **Key Environmental Initiatives on Ballot this Fall**



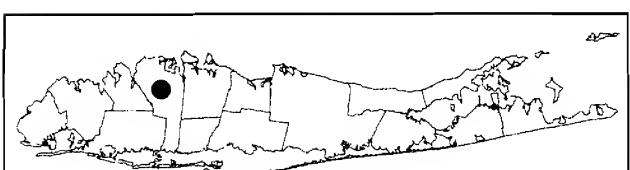
*Corydalis flavula* (Raf. ex Desv.) DC. -  
Native                                    YELLOW HARLEQUIN



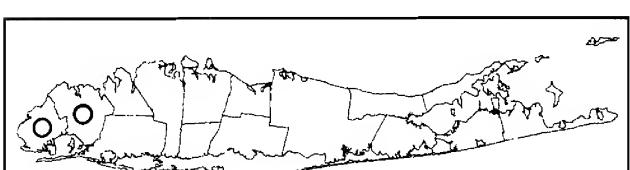
*Corydalis lutea* (L.) DC. -                            YELLOW CORYDALIS  
Alien



*Corydalis sempervirens* (L.) Pers. -                    PINK CORYDALIS  
Native



*Dicentra eximia* (Ker) Torr. - WILD BLEEDING-HEART  
Native



*Fumaria officinale* L. -                                    FUMITORE  
Alien

Election Day 1998 holds the promise of being a very special day for the protection of wild land and open spaces in Suffolk County that naturalists care so much about. Seven different land acquisition measures are on the ballot for Suffolk County residents to consider on November 3, 1998. They include one countywide measure and six town propositions.

If approved by voters, the Suffolk County Proposition, entitled the "Farms, Field, and Fun" Bond Act authorizes an expenditure of \$62 million to be used for various purposes. These include \$20 million each for:

- \* the purchase of watershed lands to protect groundwater supplies such as the pine barrens;
- \* farmland development rights to continue the County's hallmark program; and
- \* active recreational sites such as soccer and ball fields.

It also authorizes \$2 million for the establishment of a much needed regional natural history center to interpret the Island's rich natural legacy.

The town-level land protection initiatives would allow the towns of Shelter Island, Southold, Riverhead, Southampton, East Hampton, and Huntington to purchase various types of lands including farmland, watersheds, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and coastal areas that were identified and prioritized in a townwide open space plan. The east end towns would secure the necessary funding to purchase key properties through the establishment of a 2% tax on real estate transfers while Huntington's \$15 million program is proposed to be funded through the sale of general obligation bonds. The east end initiative is expected to generate about \$110 million for land protection over the life of the program (the tax sunsets in 12 years).

This Election Day vote in support of protecting the fields, forests, and wetlands that we care so much about by voting for all of the land acquisition proposals.

**John Turner**  
Conservation Chairman

# Plant Sightings

## *Seabeach Amaranth: Increased Numbers Again in 1998*

**Stephen Young**  
**NY Natural Heritage Program**

A total of just under 8600 plants of the federally threatened seabeach amaranth (*Amaranthus pumilus*) were counted on Long Island beaches this year. Annual counts have taken place on Long Island since 1990 (see Table below) when the plant was rediscovered and this year's count is the highest ever, surpassing the 8000 plants observed in 1997. Most of the plants are concentrated at three sites in central Suffolk, western Nassau and eastern Queens counties, but plants are found east to Westhampton Island. Because North and South Carolina plants have suffered from numerous recent hurricanes, Long Island has the most flowering plants in the world at this time (only 810 plants were counted on half of the known sites in NC this year; the other half was not counted). The recent success of Long Island plants seems to be primarily due to the protection provided by the fencing of beaches for rare piping plovers and terns and lack of hurricanes.

### **Numbers of Seabeach Amaranth Plants Observed on Long Island, N.Y. (1990-1998)**

Year	Number of Plants Observed
1990	331
1991	2100
1992	442
1993	195
1994	182
1995	599
1996	2263
1997	7990
1998	8600

## *Mile-a-minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*) Invades Long Island*

**Eric Lamont**

While walking along the Greenbelt Trail in eastern Nassau County this past summer, my attention was drawn to a tangled mass of vegetation sprawling over the ground and clambering up and over shrubs and small trees. Upon closer examination I observed a prickly-stemmed vine with perfectly triangular leaves and bizarre sheaths that were expanded into saucer-shaped collars clasping the stem. The immature fruits were berry-like, fleshy, and approximately pea-sized. I immediately knew that the plant was the dreaded mile-a-minute weed. For a brief moment I was excited, for I realized that this was the first time the species had been observed on Long Island. But then the magnitude of the discovery set in.

A native of Japan, mile-a-minute was accidentally brought to Pennsylvania in the 1930s with a shipment of rhododendrons. Its seeds were soon spread by birds and rodents that ate the fruits. It crept down the coast into Maryland, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. In eight years, from 1981 to 1989, mile-a-minute extended its range in Pennsylvania from five to eleven counties. It crept into New Jersey, northern Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio. In 1994 Sara Stein reported mile-a-minute from Westchester County, New York. A conference on the spread and potential control of the weed was held at the University of Pennsylvania in 1995.

Mile-a-minute thrives in areas with plenty of direct sunlight and damp soil. It is especially abundant along roadsides, ditches, stream banks, wet meadows, and clearcuts. Rapidly growing at about half a foot per day, mile-a-minute can reach lengths of 20 feet. Its rapid growth and viney nature allow it to overtake the native vegetation of an area, smothering seedlings and out competing mature plants for space, nutrients, and sunlight.

Because mile-a-minute is an annual with a shallow root system, it is best removed from lightly infested areas by hand-pulling (with gloves to protect hands) and disposing of them before they go to seed.

Considering the apparent attraction of birds and small rodents to the sweet, berry-like fruits, this invasive weed is likely to become quite common throughout Long Island in the near future.

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**LONG ISLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY**  
Founded: 1986; Incorporated: 1989.

The Long Island Botanical Society is dedicated to the promotion of field botany and a greater understanding of the plants that grow wild on Long Island, New York.

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Conservation	John Turner
	Karen Blumer
Education	Mary Laura Lamont
	Thomas Allen Stock
Hospitality	Betty Lotowycz
	Jane Blanchard
Editor	Eric Lamont

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**Membership**

Membership is open to all, and we welcome new members. Annual dues are \$10. For membership, make your check payable to LONG ISLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY and mail to: Lois Lindberg, Membership Chairperson, 45 Sandy Hill Road, Oyster Bay, NY 11771-3111

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LONG ISLAND BOTANICAL SOCIETY  
c/o Muttontown Preserve  
Muttontown Lane  
East Norwich, New York 11732

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## **PROGRAMS**

**10 November 1998 - 7:30 pm\***

**Dr. Gilbert Hanson**

Dept. of Geosciences, SUNY at Stony Brook

**"How the Glaciers Really Formed L.I."**

The old textbook theory of how glaciers formed L.I. has been largely discredited by geologists. Glacial tectonics & push moraines provide better answers.

**Location:** Museum of L.I. Natural Sciences,  
Room 123, SUNY at Stony Brook.

**8 December 1998 - 7:30 pm\***

**Richard Murcott**

(American Rhododendron Society)

**"Rhododendrons of the World"**

**Location:** Bill Patterson Nature Center,  
Muttontown Preserve, East Norwich.

\*Refreshments & informal talk begin at 7:30pm, the meeting starts at 8pm. For directions to 1) Muttontown Preserve call 516/571-8500; 2) MOLINS call 516/632-8230

